

## ENGINEER BLAMED FOR BIG WRECK.

Failed to Heed Signal and Fast Train Crashed Into a Local.

He Alone Treated Injured For Hours Till Relief Reached the Scene.

Sulphur Springs, Mo., Aug. 6.—Failure of an engineer to heed a block signal caused the rear end collision of the Missouri Pacific Railroad here last night in which thirty-eight persons were killed and about 137 injured, twenty-five seriously, according to John Cannon, assistant general manager of the road.

Train No. 4, a fast passenger, vestibuled steel train, running at full speed, crashed into No. 32, a local composed of five wooden day coaches, a baggage and an express car as the engine was taking on water with the coaches stretching back on a trestle over Glaise Creek.

The impact hurled two of the local coaches down a fifty foot embankment, edging the Mississippi River and telescoped four other coaches, crushing a number of passengers to death in their seats. Both trains were behind time, the fast passenger, running from Fort Worth, Texas, to St. Louis, carrying 150 passengers, and the local 100 persons.

### FAILED TO HEED WARNING.

According to Mr. Cannon, Matt Glenn of St. Louis, engineer of the fast passenger failed to heed a block signal warning him the track was not clear ahead. Glenn, 57 years old, an engineer for thirty-five years without a black mark against his record, was killed when he jumped from his car just before the crash. Edward Tinsley also of St. Louis, fireman of No. 4, remained at his post and was injured seriously.

Engineer Glenn, shortly before arriving in Sulphur Springs, received orders "on the run" to pull over on a siding at Cliff Cave, ten miles north of here, to allow "Sunshine Special No. 1," en route from St. Louis to Texas points, to pass and Mr. Cannon explained that the engineer failed to heed the signal because he apparently was reading these orders when he passed the block. The orders were found near his body.

### GHOULS ROB THE VICTIMS.

Ghouls appeared on the scene shortly after the crash and robbed the dead and dying. Only one was arrested. He said he was William Hall of St. Louis. Several pieces of wearing apparel and a Bible taken from the unfortunate were found on his person. The Bible, it was said, was the property of the Rev. V. O. Pensley of De Soto, one of those killed.

The dead and injured were spread over an area of several city blocks, and chicken crates, automobile cushions, baggage and railroad tracks constituted their couches. This village of 150 inhabitants was unable to care for the injured, and they, along with the dead were taken to St. Louis and De Soto. Dr. W. W. Hull was the only physician administering to the injured for several hours until relief trains arrived.

"Had I got some assistance we might have saved some of the dying," Dr. Hull told a representative of the Associated Press. "At one time I was trying to treat twenty-five persons simultaneously."

### BABY WANDERS A MILE

The cries of the injured had to go unheeded in many cases. Mothers begged for news of their babies and children cried for their parents. A fourteen-month-old girl baby, unable to tell her name, was found a mile from the scene of the disaster asking for "mama." A woman from St. Louis took her in charge.

One of the saddest scenes reported was that of the Degania family of St. Louis. Five of the family of six were killed and the father is reported dying in a St. Louis hospital. Four of the Degania children, Mildred 7 years old; Ralph, 6; Melvin 5; and Robert 14 months, lay dead to the right of their father before he could be removed, and Mrs. Degania lay dead to his left.

Mildred had been mumbling audibly the Lord's prayer, and just as she died "Thy will be done," death overtook her. Mr. Degania in his delirium clasped his infant son to his breast, repeating between groans of pain, "Thank God, Bobby, we're all alive," not knowing the hearts of his wife and children were stilled.

### MANY NOT IDENTIFIED.

In the confusion, several bodies were hurried away on the relief trains before being checked, leaving the number of dead uncertain until tonight. Many of the bodies could not be identified because their effects had been scattered over such a wide area.

The railroad tracks parallel the Mississippi River, and the trestle on which the disaster occurred spans Glaise Creek, where it enters the river. As a result, a report was current that a number of bodies were washed into the Mississippi, but there was no way of verifying this report.

Rescue work was hampered by lack of light. This village is without electricity and the rescue workers and morbidly curious made their way among the mass of twisted steel and crumpled wooden coaches by the aid of kerosene torches and candles.

Thousands of persons visited the scene late last night and today, the roads being blocked for three miles. Dr. Hull said bodies were found 300 feet from the scene of the accident. One body was hurled waist deep in a bog. Dr. George W. Elders, Coroner of Jefferson County said a thorough investigation of the accident would be made.

All of the dead and injured were residents of this section of Missouri, with the exception of two passengers, one from Illinois and the other from Texas.

## FACTIONS STAGE BIG RIOT IN CHURCH PULPIT.

Thirty Members of Congregation Arrested and Bonded for Behavior.

### MINISTER FIERCELY ATTACKED

Coat of Preacher Ripped to Pieces, He Involved in Inner Pocket Saved Life of Deflecting Point of Ice Pick.

Winchester, Va., Aug. 6.—Stiff fingers were imposed and peace bonds required last night in Police Court after nearly a score of members of St. Paul's African Methodist Church had been arrested on blanket warrants sworn out by Presiding Elder, W. W. Roberts, following a riot in the pulpit, during which revolvers, and ice pick and fists and feet flourished between warring factions of the church.

Only the arrival of police prevented bloodshed and possibly murder, according to eyewitnesses. As it was, however, one minister was attacked in the pulpit with an ice pick, which ripped the back of his coat from one end to the other, and when struck at his heart, a pistol he carried on his inner pocket deflected the daggerlike point. The whole trouble arose over the refusal of Rev. J. H. Hawkins, local pastor to go to Harrisonburg, Va., as ordered by Bishop Albert Johnson of Philadelphia. Hawkins recently expelled some of the oldest members of the church, resulting in the congregation, one of the largest here, dividing up into factions.

### RETURNED CHURCH KEYS.

After he refused to give up the church, a committee was sent to try him for insubordination, and he was suspended. The investigating committee was refused the keys, and got out a writ of unlawful detainer, returnable next Wednesday.

Late evening, however, while choir rehearsal was in progress with Rev. Hawkins present, members of the investigating committee and many of those opposed to Hawkins, marched to the church in a body, the ministers proceeding to the pulpit platform to take possession of the church.

Choir rehearsal stopped abruptly, and all hands, men and women alike, engaged in a melee. James W. Stephenson, a Hawkins adherent, was said to have attacked Rev. P. D. Smith, of Raphine, Va., one of the investigators, with an ice pick, splitting his coat. A moment later the pick was driven toward the preacher's heart. It struck something hard and it was found the preacher had a loaded revolver in his pocket.

Presiding Elder Roberts was manhandled by men and women, and finally was rescued by the police, who found the entire gathering talking, shouting and gesticulating excitedly. Some of the lights had been turned out and in the partial darkness friend and foe alike were beaten and battered. Rev. Smith was arrested for carrying concealed weapons. At the hearing James Stephenson testified Rev. Roberts was drunk when he undertook to hold quarterly conference, and that several official members "smelt his breath" to make sure of their suspicions.

During the riot Rev. Hawkins fled, and is said to have gone to Philadelphia to lay his side of the church war before Bishop Johnson. It was arranged to hold services tonight with police protection, if necessary.

## NEW JERSEY OPPOSES MIXED BOUTS.

(Preston News Service.)

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 11.—If Tex Rickard is successful in finally landing the proposed heavyweight championship match between Harry Wills and Jack Dempsey, it is certain he will not stage the affair at Boyle's Thirty Acres here.

State Commissioner McNair, of the New Jersey Boxing Commission is reported to have said: "I have always opposed a fight being held in New Jersey between Jack Dempsey, who is a white man, and Harry Wills, the colored fighter."

"However, the ministers of this State are not so much opposed to the staging of the fight between Benny Leonard and Lew Tendler as they are against the proposed bout between Dempsey and Wills, and for that reason they in tend, so I am told, a far more bitter argument against the holding of a mixed bout for the heavyweight championship ship."

"Personally, I think Dempsey and Wills should settle their differences in a State aside from New Jersey, and I intend to do all in my power to prevent staging the bout here."

The attitude of the New Jersey Boxing Commission is but another effort to find a loophole through which Dempsey may jump to keep from meeting Wills. It would seem to the casual observer that there is a concerted movement on foot to assure the white race of maintaining the title belt for heavyweights. The constant dodging of Dempsey himself and the strategic moves of his many white friends are but indications that they fear the crown will pass to a colored man if Dempsey should meet Wills in a championship bout.

### BERT WILLIAMS' WIDOW SUES HENRY GREAMER.

(Preston News Service.)

New York City, Aug. 9.—It is reported that Mrs. Bert Williams has sued Henry Greamer in an effort to recover \$300 which she alleges Greamer owed her late husband on a promissory note.

According to Mrs. Williams the note was negotiated in December 1921 and was due on April 4, 1922. Efforts to collect the money my peaceful methods proved futile and Mrs. Williams resorted to the law.

## MANY SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR BILLY KING.

Opening an engagement of one week at the RKO Theatre on Monday night, August 14th, Billy King and his company of forty in the New York musical success "Moonshine" will offer many extra events on the various nights that is sure to please Richmond theatregoers.

On Wednesday night, as a special feature, Jack Wiggins will hold a dancing contest to determine who is the best amateur dancer in Richmond. This contest is open to all and the audience will act as judges. To the one receiving the greatest amount of applause, a ten dollar gold piece will be given. Entries are now being received at the box office of the RKO Theatre.

On Thursday night, "Opportunity Night" will be held. With the success of the colored shows on Broadway, New York, there is a demand for new talent and Billy King is offering Richmond entertainers an opportunity to show their talents. At the conclusion of the performance on Thursday night, Opportunity Night, will be held and once more the audience will judge the talents of the performers with the result that the local amateur receiving the greatest amount of applause, efforts will be made to place the winner in one of the new colored shows in New York. It is a great opportunity for Richmond folks to get into the theatrical game in a big way. At the regular night performance on Friday night, a Chorus Girls Contest will be held. Here is your chance to do it who is the most popular chorus girl with Billy King's Company. At 11 P. M. Friday night a mid-night ramble will be held and an entirely different show will be offered called: "The Whirl of Joy."

Saturday matinee will be for children and Saturday night will introduce Flappers Contest, which should pack the RKO to the doors.

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